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# GSUniverse

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

March 10 – March 14, 2003

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*"Education costs money, but then so does ignorance."  
Sir Claus Moser*

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## Making the Case for Governors State

Board Chairman Bruce Friefeld and President Stuart Fagan testified before the House Appropriations Committee on Higher Education on March 13, where they hammered home the point that an across the board reduction for higher education would be unwise and unfair because each university has a different mission and operates at a different level of efficiency.

Dr. Fagan and the presidents of the other public universities are also meeting with the Illinois Board of Higher Education Monday, March 17, to describe in specific detail what actions they would take if they were compelled to reserve eight percent of the current FY03 appropriated budget and if the FY04 appropriated budget were reduced eight percent from FY03 levels. Dr. Fagan's response: reductions of that magnitude could be a blow to many of the university's community outreach programs, seriously disrupt students' lives and plans because of classes being consolidated, and could jeopardize quality and even accreditation of some programs because some faculty positions would be left unfilled. Again he stressed the point that one size does not fit all and that each university's appropriation should be based on its mission and level of efficiency.

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## Board Approves Tuition Increase

In a move necessitated by continuing reductions in the university's appropriated budget, the Board of Trustees approved a tuition increase at its March 14 meeting. Effective with the Fall 2003 Trimester, undergraduate tuition will be raised 9.3 percent to \$118 per credit hour and graduate tuition will be raised 10.2 percent to \$130 per credit hour. The Board also voted to eliminate tuition caps, raise the late payment penalty fee to \$60, and establish a graduate application fee of \$25. "We're facing the economic realities," said President Fagan, who noted that with less than four months remaining in the current fiscal year the Governor has directed public universities to reserve eight percent of their appropriated budget. For FY04, appropriations to Governors State and the other public universities may be reduced by eight percent or more from FY03 levels.

Jeff Slovak, Associate Director of Budget and Planning, said, "In order to minimize the impact of the cuts we will have to make, we have no choice but to find ways to increase our revenues. Some other universities have already taken similar actions. In our case, the increase is modest in absolute dollar terms. The additional cost per credit hour is less than the price of a DVD. Governors State remains the best bargain and the best value in higher education in Illinois."

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## Workshop on Funding Opportunities

A subcommittee of the Graduate Council will offer a workshop on grants and extramural funding on Friday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., in E-lounge. Librarian and Subcommittee Chair Mari Ellen Leverence and subcommittee members will highlight areas of the federal budget that provide opportunities for outside funding for research areas.

Dr. Deborah Holdstein, Faculty Associate for Graduate Studies and Research, will facilitate the discussion.

Refreshments will be served.

Faculty who wish to reserve a seat should contact the Provost's office at ext. 4980.

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### **Subcommittee Charts Technology Course**

Haphazard implementations of technology result in two things: user frustration and disparate resources that never realize their potential. Therefore, Library Director Diane Casey, Coordinator of Academic Information Technology, has recently created a subcommittee of the Information Technology Policy Council – the Technological Planning Subcommittee – that will work in advance of technological implementations to ensure a coordinated, university-wide plan for projects and initiatives is in place. “Our overarching university technology plan has to include a framework of goals and outcomes mirroring the university’s strategic plan,” says Casey. Substantively, this means laying a foundation of access and support infrastructures that will facilitate initiatives such as distance learning, multimedia, library resources, procurement, and student service. The subcommittee is currently analyzing and adapting a technology strategy explored by the University of California.

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### **ScholarSHIP Sails On**

Interim Library Director Diane Casey’s article, “The Impact of Consortial Guidelines on the Cataloging of Internet Resources,” was published in the *Journal of Internet Cataloging*, Vol. 6(1) 2003. The article examines the impact consortial guidelines for cataloging remote access computer files have on the quantity, quality, and nature of bibliographic records for Internet resources found in ILLINET Online.

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### **Women’s History Month: The Written Word**

On Tuesday, March 18, two GSU Women’s History Month events will highlight women and writing. At 4 p.m., Myra Eder, assistant editor of *The Star’s* “First Look,” will present “A Perspective of Women and Writing” in the cafeteria annex. Following at 5 p.m., in Sherman Recital Hall, The TallGrass Writer’s Guild will present “Women’s Voices: 20th Century Women’s Poetry.”

Refreshments will be served at both events.

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### **vClass Software Demo**

University Lecturer Edna Fry and a representative from the software development company, Elluminate, will conduct a demonstration of the vClass software Fry is currently using, courtesy of a technology grant from CTI. The software allows for live voice and text communication for teaching over the Internet. It also makes it possible for the instructor to share software applications with the class and even operate the student’s computer remotely if necessary.

The demonstration will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, in Room E2574. It is expected to last about one hour.

For more information, contact Fry at extension 4949.

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### **UPS Training**

The Purchasing Department will be conducting a campus-wide United Parcel Service CampusShip training session on Wednesday, March 19, in Engbretson Hall, from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. To register, contact Gabrielle Sutton at ext. 4056. For more information, contact Pat Rogala at ext. 5069.

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